

National Republican

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One Cent. 10d. and 1s. wear Pennies. A. V.

W. J. KURTATH, its Editor and Proprietor.

— makes endeavor to return expense ex-

tractions. Contributors will therefore pre-

fer.

RECEPTIONS.

Mrs. GRANT'S RECEPTIONS.

We are AUTHORIZED to announce that

the Tuesday afternoon reception of Mrs.

Grant will be discontinued until further

notice.

SPAKER BLAINE'S RECEPTIONS.

Speaker Blaine's next reception will be

on Friday evening, March 15th, from 9 to 11 o'clock.

Mrs. Blaine's receptions will be held every

Wednesday of the season, between the hours

of 2 and 5 p.m.

CITIZENSHIP under the Fourteenth Amendment.

The novel question has been raised as to

whether "Indians not taxed" are citizens

of the United States under the provisions of

the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution.

That amendment so carefully follows

precedent in excluding them from citizen-

ship in the Federal Constitution, we

are surprised that any one should think

that the Indians have been included in

the jurisdiction of the United States; but

in the original constitution, as well as in all

amendments thereto, have been recognized

as independent and sovereign peoples or

tribes, possessing the highest attributes of

sovereignty, namely that of making treaties.

There exists to-day no municipal law, ex-

cept that of their own making, to which the

Indians, within their own territory, are sub-

ject. No court of law of the United States,

or of any State, has or can extend its juris-

dition over their territory. The Cherokees

and Choctaws, especially designated in Mr.

Cullum's resolution of inquiry, have repre-

sented governments of their own in a country

perpetually separated from them by treaties

executed and ratified by all the solemn forms

of the wisdom of our ancestors to make them

sacred and binding. No act of Congress

can override the binding force of such a

perpetual contract, which being in the

form of a treaty is declared by the sixth

article of the Constitution to be equally with

that instrument, "the supreme law of the land."

A law passed in contravention of

the Constitution is null and void, and Con-

gress can no more assume political jurisdic-

tion over the Cherokee than it can over the

inhabitants of Cuba.

There is only one method by which the

United States can be carried into effect, and that is by superior force—the ex-

ercise of the rights of conquest and subjuga-

tion which great Powers have sometimes

claimed over weak ones. Are the United

States prepared to perpetrate so grievous a

wrong over the well-organized nations west

of Arkansas, who maintain themselves by

the acts of peace in a political organization

which has developed out of their own social

condition and ancestral habits, and, in there-

fore, better adapted to their requirements

than any government we can invent for them?

We know the bill intended to overthrow

their present system and professed to leave

them the forms of self-government; but these,

in the face of past experience, are less

than shadows. If, by the ingenious device

of misconstruing an unwilling people into

citizenship by express terms of the

fourth section of the Constitution, of which

the framers had no knowledge, and whose

possible existence or creation were not known

to, or contemplated by, the framers thereof.

By what, after all, did the original

Constitution, as adopted, and the conditions

of its adoption, differ from those of the

fourth section of the Constitution, of which

the framers had no knowledge?

By what, after all, did the original

Constitution differ from the new State of

West Virginia, which is at best of anomalous

if not non-constitutional origin?

We have, then, as now, composing this

Union three distinct classes, including

the original, which may be designated as

constitutional, semi-constitutional, and

non-constitutional.

The second section of the fourteenth

amendment, being amendatory of said artic-

le, also excludes "Indians not taxed" from

the basis of apportionment.

The colonies recognized their separate re-

lations, as did the old confederation. It was

the common law of the country, accepted,

as the fact of other separate nationalities

was accepted, when the Constitution was

framed; recognized in that instrument as

the original, and, in the measures of the

revolution, as well as in the Declaration of

Independence, as well as in the Articles of

Confederation, as well as in the Constitution.

It was not so said in the original colonial

union under the covenants of non-importa-

tion and non-consumption of October 24,

1775. It was not so said in the revolution,

under the martial manifesto of May 20, 1775. It was not so said in the revolutionary union under the Declaration of Inde-

pendence of July 4, 1776. Nor was it so

said in the Articles of Confederation, as well as in the Constitution.

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